GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L. **Intellectual Property Causes** 1941 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191

(703) 716-1191

Attorney Docket No. P19894

In re application of RADE : Takehiko SHIGEFUJI et al.

Box Non-Fee

Serial No.

: 09/680,293

Group Art Unit:

Filed

: October 6, 2000

Examiner

Kim Tran

3724

For

: PUNCHING TOOL PROVIDED WITH TOOL IDENTIFICATION MEDIUM AND PUNCH

PRESS PROVIDED WITH A TOOL IDENTIFICATION MEDIUM READER

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

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J Transmitted herewith is a Response to Restriction Requirement with Traverse in the above-captioned application.

Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified state previously filed.

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

An Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form 1449, and references cited.

X No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
			Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims: 6	*20	0	x 9=	\$	x 18=	\$0.00
Indep. Claims: 2	**3	0	x 40=	\$	x 80=	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented		+135=	\$	+270=	\$0.00	
Extension Fees for	Month			\$		\$0.00
			Total:	\$	Total:	\$0.00

^{*}If less than 20, write 20

Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$ N/A A Check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing/extension fee is included.

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

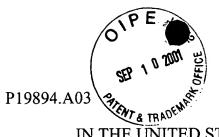
X Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

X Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 CFR 1.136)(a)(3).

With 4. Lydle Res No.
Bruce H. Bernstein 41,568

Reg. No. 29,027

^{**}If less than 3, write 3



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Takehiko SHIGEFUJI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3724

Appl. No

09/680,293

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For

PUNCHING TOOL PROVIDED WITH TOOL IDENTIFICATION

MEDIUM AND PUNCH PRESS PROVIDED WITH A TOOL

IDENTIFICATION MEDIUM READER

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT WITH TRAVERSE

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement of August 8, 2001, setting a one month period for response extending until September 10, 2001 (September 8, 2001 being a Saturday), Applicants elect the invention of Group I, with traverse, for the reasons expressed below. Claim 14 is considered to be "readable" on the invention of Group I (as set forth by the Examiner).

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement. Even if the Examiner's characterization of Groups I and II as defining related subcombinations usable together in a single combination were to be considered correct, Applicants respectfully request that all of the inventions defined in claims 14-19, nevertheless, be examined in the

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Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the requirement and find that there would not appear to be a "serious burden" on the Patent and Trademark Office in examining claims directed to the non-elected invention since the Examiner will have to search for a processing program quite similar to that of claim 14 while searching for the method of preparing a program of claims 15-19.

It would appear that the search for the inventions identified by the Examiner would be coextensive or at least significantly overlap. That is, if the Examiner were to perform a search for the invention of Group I, there would not appear to be a serious burden in continuing the examination of the other invention of Group II. For this reason, and consistent with office policy as set forth in M.P.E.P. 803, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the Requirement for Restriction.

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the Requirement for Restriction in this application is improper and it is respectfully requested that it be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

> Respectfully submitted, Takehiko SHIGEFUJI et al.

Will. E. Lydde Reg. No. Bruce H. Bernstein 41,568

Reg. No. 29,027

September 10, 2001 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1941 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191